**DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS – 2016\_2017

FALL SEMESTER

**Course Title: AVID – 9TH Grade**

**Instructor:** Mr. Eric Perry

**Instructors Available Hours:** 4th period, *lunch*, after school (until 4pm)

**E-mail:** Eric\_perry@dpsk12.org

**Phone:** 720-423-7094



**Course Description**

**Major Concepts/Content:** *Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID)* is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and is a year-long course.

The **9th grade AVID Elective course** is the focused on providing tools and strategies to students so that they are successful in high school. We will also be spending time exploring college, careers and leadership opportunities of each individual student. You will find that you are able to take what you learn in this class and apply it in your other classes and eventually within a college setting. You will also become part of a community that supports and helps each other.

**Required Materials**

All AVID students are required to have a **3-ring binder (2 inch or bigger), dividers, pens & pencils, notebook paper, planner.** We will also be using your Infinite Campus Account on a weekly basis. Please make sure you have access to this account. You can get your password reset by seeing Mr. Hanks in Room 208.

**Classroom Expectations**

1. **Respect:**

**All People, class materials, School Policies.** Anything less will not be tolerated.

**Please note**: ANY documented violation of school rules, policies etc. to include fighting, truancy, disrespect towards other students or faculty member will result in loss of points in this AVID class (ranging from 10-25 points; based on severity)

**Student Initial**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Initial:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Responsibility:**

You are responsible for your own actions. ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS! How you act shows your character more than words ever will.

1. **Readiness:**

**Be in your (assigned) seat and ready to begin class when the bell rings with your materials and in the process of completing the daily ‘Do Now’.**

Class participation points will be deducted for each tardy.

1. **Participation:**

All students will be cooperative class participants, and work actively with others as a team.

1. **Electronic Devices:**

**ALL electronic devices will be turned off and OUT OF SIGHT upon entering the classroom door.** We see it, we hear it, and we take it. See Electronics Policy

**Student Initial**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Initial:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Food or Drink:**

**No food or drink is allowed (per DPS/TJ Policy) is allowed in classrooms. Water is fine. Any food will be taken and discarded in the trash.** Please respect the classroom environment by keeping it clean and focusing on learning at all times!

1. **Attendance**:

Come to class every day on time and ready to participate. Once the tardy bell rings all TJ classrooms will be closed and locked. **10 unexcused absences per semester will result in lowering your grade one letter grade.**

1. **Grading:**

Student’s grades will be broken into three 6 week cycles each semester per DPS policy. The 6 week grading periods are only in place to signify when parents are updated of their students’ progress in their classes. Your six week and final grade will be the same as TJ’s grading system is continuous.

1. **Make up work**:

If a student has an **excused absence** their assignment will be entered in IC as an incomplete. Students have 1 day for every day absent to complete the work they missed. If a student is absent unexcused and assignments/tests/quizzes are given that day etc., students will not have a chance to make up these points.

**Late Work:** All late work must be submitted for grading within the same 6 week grading period as assigned. 10% will be deducted from the total possible points for each day beyond the expected due date. Once the student has not turned in the assignment beyond one week from the due date, the max they can earn is 50%; if turned in; in excess of one week: 0% (in college, late work is not accepted!)

**Student Initial**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Initial:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **College Visits:**

AVID students will go on at least one college visit, and/or attend a college fair. Students agree to be a model AVID and TJ student at all events at all times.

1. **Tutorial & Notes:**

During the fall semester (> November 1st) ALL students will participate in the tutorial process at least once a week for the remainder of the year. This is the baseline of AVID Inquiry and Critical Thinking processes. Cornell Notes are to be taken in all core classes by AVID students. Unless directed by the teacher, this is not optional. In addition, failure to take Cornell notes and or participate in weekly tutorials will result in an ‘F’ in the class and possibly removal from the AVIID program.

**Student Initial**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Initial:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **AVID Non-negotiable items:**

* Use of an AVID Binder
* Use of TJ/AVID Planner
* Completion of weekly Grade Tracking Sheets
* Tutorials (see #11 above)
* In-class Study Hall days (minimum one day/2 weeks will be a study/homework day)
* Participation in Team Building and Leadership activities
* Attend all AVID sponsored College/Career Readiness & Guest Speakers
* Completion of AVID directed projects
* Student must be on track to graduate in 4 years (unless IEP is in place)
* Student must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher or in progression.

**Course Description Agreement - 9th Grade AVID Elective Class**

Please sign and date below and return to me by **Friday, September 2, 2016**

By signing below, I agree to the expectations and standards set by Thomas Jefferson High School and the AVID Center.

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_